



NATIVITY OF OUR LORD PARISH, DURYEA

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Nativity of Our Lord Duryea

Rev. Michael M. Bryant *Pastor*

Deacon André Kabacinski, *Parish Deacon*

Masses: SEE SPECIAL SCHEDULE FOR THIS WEEK

Confession: SEE SPECIAL SCHEDULE FOR THIS WEEK

Palm Sunday of the Lord's Passion ✠ March 24, 2024

The Agonies of Our Hearts



The second reading this Sunday is from a hymn which St. Paul includes in his letter to the Philippians. This hymn gives us the entire mystery of Christ. Paul shares these thoughts from this ancient hymn: *Christ Jesus...did not regard equality with God...he emptied himself...taking the form of a slave...coming in human likeness...he humbled himself, becoming obedient to the point of death...on a cross.* One can imagine

many choirs of disciples singing these heartfelt words about their Savior and friend with agony in their hearts.

The Passion from St. Mark is given to us to touch some of the agony of our hearts. Agony over the violence and wars which savagely force people to march away from their homelands taking only a small portion of their belongings. Suffering that we encounter as we look into the faces of family, friends and neighbors who carry crosses of emptiness, poverty, addiction, and prejudice. The distress that many face when they are stripped of their dignity and oneness within their family or community. The misery from being nailed and lifted up in hatred because of differences in age, skin color, ethnic backgrounds, sexual preferences, gender identities and religious commitments.

Similar to the crowds who agonized with Jesus as he made his way from Bethany to Gethsemane, then from Jerusalem to Golgotha, we are called to join them and be one with Jesus in his obedience to death on the cross. Obedience is derived from a root word that means "listening." Jesus humbly listened to his Father, and so must we.

This Lent we listened to our hearts, even as we knew that this always entails being in the shadow of the cross. A choice to love with the same heart as Jesus means emptying our lives of those attitudes which beat down people and leave them disgraced. It means, as Isaiah says, that we open our ears and do not rebel or turn back from the daily paths Jesus invites us to walk with him. Loving with Christ accepts that God has offered us "a well-trained tongue" to use in any way we can to rouse people into action to compassionately respond to others' sorrows.

It all sounds so challenging and at times does weary our spirits. Yet, St. Paul's offered hymn tells us something profound about the God who reaches out to our hearts' agonies. God exalted Christ who died on the cross. The name of Jesus is bestowed on him above every other name, so that even in death, a greater power sets him and us free. This is the confession which God seeks, not to wrap us in guilt or shame, but to enable us to see and hear how Jesus bids us to bend our knees in trust and love.

Kneeling before Jesus, we acknowledge that in many ways the veils of our world situations which try to hide from the truth can be torn down "from top to bottom," if we are with Jesus Christ. It seems that so much of the good of our world is buried. Yet, if we enter the tombs with our Savior, we might be truly surprised at how much strength we have. Let us stand watch during this week of holiness. Let us bring with us all our agonies, aware completely that when we do make this journey, nothing of who we are is ever abandoned by God.

-Fr. Michael

► **Mark 11:1-10** ~ *Welcomed with Palms* ► **Isaiah 50:4-7** ~ *God is my help*

► **Philippians 2: 6-11** ~ *Imitating Christ's Humility*

► **Mark 14: 1-15** ~ *The Passion of Our Lord Jesus Christ*

Adults: When have you felt that you betrayed the confidence of another, as Peter did when he denied Jesus?

Kids: When have you let someone down who trusted you? How did you feel?

LITURGICAL CALENDAR, DEVOTIONS AND INTENTIONS
FOR MARCH 24-MARCH 31, 2024

Mon	25	Monday of Holy Week	7:00am 6:30 pm	Mary McAndrew <i>(By Dave and Cathy Pasczkowski)</i> <i>Penance Service at St. John Evangelist, Pittston</i>
Tue	26	Tuesday of Holy Week	7:00am 4:00pm	Vincent Yonushka <i>(30 Day)</i> <i>Mass of the Holy Chrism – St. Peter's Cathedral, Scranton</i>
Wed	27	Wednesday of Holy Week	7:00am 4:30- 7:00pm	Eva Hannon <i>(by Family)</i> <i>Confessions</i>
Thu	28	Holy Thursday	8:00am 7:00 pm 8-10:30 10:30pm	Morning Prayer Evening Mass of the Lord's Last Supper <i>Adoration of the Most Blessed Sacrament</i> Night Prayer
Fri	29	Friday of the Passion of the Lord (Good Friday)	8:00am 10:00am- 11:00am 2:00pm	Morning Prayer <i>Confessions</i> Commemoration of the Lord's Passion
Sat	30	Holy Saturday	7:00pm 8:00am 2:00pm 4:00pm 8:00pm	Stations of the Cross Morning Prayer <i>Blessing of the Easter Baskets</i> <i>Blessing of the Easter Baskets</i> Vigil of the Resurrection
Sun	31	Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord	8:00am 9:30am 11:00am 6:00pm	For the Intentions of the Parishioners For the Intentions of the Parishioners For the Intentions of the Parishioners Evening Prayer <i>(No 7pm Mass)</i>
NO VOTIVE CANDLES THIS WEEK OR NEXT				

24 Palm Sunday

25 Monday

-Faith Sharing 1:00pm

26 Tuesday

-Soup and Spirituality 5:00pm

27 Wednesday

-Confessions 4:30-7:00pm



28 Holy Thursday

- NO SCHOOL/NO Gift Cert. SALES

sales will resume on Thurs. April 4th

29 Good Friday - OFFICE CLOSED

-Confessions 10-11:00am

-Decorating 7:30-9:30pm, following Stations

30 Saturday

-Blessing of Easter Baskets

2:00pm and 4:00pm

-Easter Vigil 8:pm

31 **EASTER SUNDAY**

of the Resurrection of the Lord

~APRIL~

1 Monday - OFFICE CLOSED

3 Wednesday

-Eucharistic Service, Crossin Towers

FINANCES AND ONGOING STEWARDSHIP

For the period ending March 19: TOTAL \$ 8,546.04; Sunday \$4,565.79 (\$1,193.00 OL) Loose Offering: \$447.25;

Other Envelopes \$3,533.00 (\$440.00 OL)

Thank You, and may God bless your wonderful generosity!

HOSANNA

Blessed is he who
comes in the name
of the LORD

Open wide the doors
and gates
Lift high the
ancient portals
The KING of GLORY
enters!

DIocese of SCRANTON
VOCATIONS OFFICE



"Get Up
and Pray"

Luke 22:46

Join us in praying for our
priests and seminarians
Holy Thursday, March 28th!

1. Assemble a group to visit
the Altar of Repose in as
many churches as you can

2. Look for the "Add Yours"
sticker on @Scrantonvoc
stories Thursday night

3. Share photos using the
sticker & tell us which priests
and/or seminarians you're
praying for!

FAITH FORMATION : On March 24, Only Morning Classes, as Scheduled. No Classes Easter Sunday.

CEMETERY NOTES Please be VERY CAREFUL in our cemeteries, as *good weather* can cause you to think you are walking on good ground YOU ARE NOT! STAY ON PATHS AS MUCH AS YOU ARE ABLE. With a lot of freeze/melt cycles, it continues to be a tough season for settlement. Please notify the rectory if you notice a settled grave, a hole, or leaning stone. Thank You for all you do to keep our cemeteries so beautiful - and please be SAFE! ALSO, PLEASE TAKE TRASH WITH YOU. There is no dumping in either Holy Rosary or St Joseph's Cemeteries.

GIFT CERTIFICATES: To support Holy Rosary School March 28th Holy Thursday (NO SCHOOL/NO SALES) Sales will resume on Thursday April 4th.

PITTSTON DEANERY LENTEN PENANCE SERVICE On Monday of Holy Week, March 25 at 6:30 pm, Saint John the Evangelist Parish, 35 William Street in Pittston, will host the Pittston Deanery Lenten Penance Service. Several priests from our deanery will be available for the Sacrament of Reconciliation during this time.

IN THE COMMUNITY

Designer Purse Bingo, St. Maria Goretti Church, 42 Redwood Drive, Laflin, Pa. Saturday, April 13- Doors open at 11:00am. Bingo from 1:00-4:00pm. \$30 -includes \$5 Food Stand Voucher and 20 games of Bingo (extra games may be purchased) Food and Beverages will be available for purchase, basket raffle and bake sale. For tickets contact the parish office at 570-655-8965 Monday -Friday 9:00am -2:00pm.

CONFESSION SCHEDULE

Monday ~ March 25

Deanery Penance Service 6:30 p.m. at St. John's in Pittston

Wednesday ~March 27

4:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Good Friday ~March 29

10:00 -11:00 a.m.

There are no Confessions on Holy Saturday

Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday of Holy Week ~ Daily Mass at 7:00 am
Mass of the Holy Chrism at the Cathedral on Tuesday, March 26, at 4:00pm

THE PASCHAL TRIDUUM

HOLY THURSDAY – March 28

- ❖ Morning Prayer ~ 8:00 am
Our church will be open for private prayer throughout the day.
- † Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper ~ 7:00 pm
Following Mass, the Church will remain open for prayer in the evening until Night Prayer.
- ❖ Night Prayer ~ 10:30 pm

GOOD FRIDAY – March 29

- ❖ Morning Prayer ~ 8:00 am
Our church will be open for private prayer throughout the day.
- † Commemoration of the Lord's Passion ~ 2:00 pm
- ❖ Stations of the Cross ~7:00 pm

HOLY SATURDAY – March 30

- ❖ Morning Prayer ~ 8:00 am
Our church will be open for private prayer throughout the day. (There is no 4:00 p.m. Mass)
- ✙ Blessing of Baskets ~ 2:00 and 4:00 *in church*
- † The Easter Vigil in the Holy Night ~ 8:00 pm

EASTER SUNDAY OF THE RESURRECTION OF THE LORD – March 31

- † Easter Masses ~ 8:00 am, 9:30 am, and 11:00 am
- ❖ Evening Prayer ~ 6:00 pm *(there is NO 7:00 pm Mass)*

OCTAVE OF EASTER - DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY - APRIL 7

- † Usual Weekend Schedule of Masses ~ 4:00pm Saturday, 8:00am, 11:00 a.m. and 7:00pm Sunday
- ❖ Holy Hour begins at 2:00pm and The Chaplet will be prayed at 3:00pm, All are encouraged to attend.



This Bulletin is printed in Loving Memory of...



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